

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A hydraulic forming process ~~wherein fluid is sealedly filled at one side of a workpiece interposed between~~ using a movable die having a forming section and a fixed die having an accommodating section for fluid, comprising:

filling the accommodating section with fluid wherein the compression ratio of the fluid is not more than 3.0×10^{-5} cm^2/kg ;

sealing the fluid in the accommodating section by one side of the workpiece;

~~and the pressure of the fluid is increased by pressing down the movable die toward~~ [[an]] the accommodating section of the fluid to increase the pressure of the fluid; and, whereby

deforming a part of the workpiece ~~is deformed toward a forming space section formed~~ [[at]] by the forming section of the movable die and the other side of the workpiece to thereby perform a forming on the workpiece.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently amended) A hydraulic forming process claimed in claim 1, wherein the viscosity of the fluid ~~can be~~ is between 100 to 1500 cSt.

4. (Original) A hydraulic forming process claimed in claim 1, wherein the fluid is a mixture of glycol and water at a predetermined ratio.

5. (Currently amended) A hydraulic forming process claimed in claim 1, wherein the workpiece ~~can be~~ is formed such that one side thereof is surface-treated and ~~the same~~ said one side comes in contact with the fluid.

6. (Canceled)

7-10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently amended) A hydraulic forming device ~~elaimed~~ in claim 10, wherein the supplying/exhausting/sealing device is provided with a composite valve composed of a check valve that allows the flow of the fluid from a hydraulic supply source to the hollow section of the lower die and a relief valve that can

~~change a pressure retainable in a path between the hollow section of the lower die and the check valve according to a change over operation and has a relief pressure set low in a normal state while a relief pressure set high when the workpiece is formed, wherein a valve body of this composite valve may be directly installed to the lower die comprising:~~

a lower die having a support section that supports a workpiece placed thereon and a hollow section enclosed by the support section and filled with fluid;

a blank holder that is movable upwardly and downwardly and has a structure to clamp a peripheral edge section of the workpiece with the support section of the lower die;

an upper die that is movable upwardly and downwardly, has a formed section at its bottom surface and fits into the hollow section of the lower die with the central section of the workpiece having the peripheral edge section clamped by the support section of the lower die and the blank holder;

a valve body installed directly to the lower die;

a check valve installed to the valve body, wherein the check valve allows the flow of the fluid from a hydraulic supply source to the hollow section of the lower die while the check valve seals the fluid filled in the hollow section when the workpiece is formed by the upper die and the lower die; and

a relief valve installed to the valve body, wherein the relief valve is capable of changing a fluid pressure retainable in a path between the hollow section of the lower die and the check valve according to a change-over operation of a relief pressure, the relief valve seals the fluid filled in the hollow section by increasing a relief pressure when the workpiece is formed by the upper die and the lower die, and the relief valve discharges the fluid from the hollow section by decreasing a relief pressure before the upper die is withdrawn from the hollow section of the lower die, after the forming.

12. (Original) A hydraulic forming device claimed in claim 11, wherein the valve body is provided with a mounting port to which a pressure sensor can be mounted.

13. (Currently amended) A hydraulic forming device claimed in claim ~~12~~ 11, wherein the workpiece has one surface having a surface treatment performed thereon and is placed on the support section of the lower die with ~~the same~~ said one surface brought into contact with the fluid.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently amended) A metal separator for a fuel cell composed by forming a ~~great number~~ plurality of convex sections, wherein the convex sections are formed by a hydraulic forming process comprising the steps of:

~~a first step for~~ placing a metal separator material on ~~the~~ a top end section of ~~the~~ a lower die with a hollow section formed on the lower die filled with fluid so as to prevent air from entering, wherein the compression ratio of the fluid is not more than 3.0×10^{-5} cm²/kg;

~~a second step for~~ lowering a blank holder arranged at the outer periphery of the upper die so as to clamp the peripheral edge section of the metal separator material placed on the lower die by the blank holder and the top end section of the lower die; and

~~a third step for~~ lowering the upper die relative to the lower die for pressedly deforming the central section of the metal separator material as well as for compressing the fluid to increase ~~its~~ a pressure of the fluid, thereby transferring a shape of a formed section formed on the upper die on the metal separator material by the fluid having the increased pressure, for forming a convex section.

16-18. (Canceled)

19. (Original) A metal separator claimed in claim 15, wherein the viscosity of the fluid used for the hydraulic forming process is 100 to 1500 cSt.

20. (Original) A metal separator claimed in claim 15, wherein the fluid used for the hydraulic forming process is a mixture of glycol and water at a predetermined ratio.

21. (Original) A metal separator claimed in claim 15 wherein the metal separator material is formed such that one side thereof is surface-treated and the same side comes in contact with the fluid.

22. (New) A hydraulic forming process claimed in claim 4, wherein the mixed volume ratio of the glycol to water is 9~6 to 1~4.

23. (New) A metal separator claimed in claim 20, wherein the mixed volume ratio of the glycol to water is 9~6 to 1~4.